

COPY

P R O C E E D I N G S
of the
LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, August 17, 1971

Wild Life & Fisheries Bldg.
400 Royal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana



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P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . The Board Meeting of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission convened at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, August 17, 1971, at the Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, Mr. J. G. Jones, Chairman, presiding. . . .

PRESENT WERE:

J. G. JONES, Chairman

H. C. WRIGHT, Vice-Chairman

C. M. HOFFPAUER, Director

LLOYD AUTIN

J. E. KYLE, JR.

HOBSON NORRIS

J. L. WALKER

J. L. WINFREE

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A G E N D A

1. Approval of the minutes of the meetings (9)
held on May 25, 1971 and June 18, 1971.

MR. RICHARD K. YANCEY:

2. Setting of hunting regulations for (10)



waterfowl.

MR. TED O'NEIL:

- ✓3. Setting of the 1971-72 fur trapping season. (68)

MR. HARRY SCHAFER:

- ✓4. Discuss the opening of three shell plant areas to oyster fishing. (78)

- ✓5. Extension of closed area to commercial fishing in the Grand Isle-Timbalier area. (84)

MR. JOE HERRING:

- ✓6. Setting of the fur trapping season on wildlife management areas. (87)

- ✓7. Doe season on portion of Richland Parish. (90)

- ✓8. Change wording in camping regulations pertaining to wildlife management areas on U. S. Forest Service land. (92)

MR. CLARK M. HOFFPAUER:

- ✓9. Discuss Congressman Bob Sikes' resolution for a national hunting and fishing day. (95)

OTHER BUSINESS.



REPORTER'S NOTE:

✓ The following items of business not shown on the agenda were presented:

Introduction of Mr. Lloyd Autin, (4)

Commission Member.

Expression of appreciation re (4)

summer camp program.

Report, Water Pollution Control (43)

Division of Stream Control

Commission (Mr. Robert LeFleur)

Discussion of nutria meat sales (70)

Discussion of crab trap problem (97)



THE CHAIRMAN: The meeting will come to order.

I would like to introduce to you a new member of the Commission, Lloyd Autin, sitting on my right, from Houma, who will now be a member of the Commission.

(Applause)

Before proceeding into the regular order of business, we are honored. We have a little special presentation we are sort of proud of. This is a group of campers who want to come and say a few things to us about the summer camp program. I will turn it over to Vincent Pizzalato.

MR. VINCENT PIZZALOTO: Thank you a lot. "On behalf of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission" is the way we start most of our talks, but today, since we are in front of the Commission, we won't start it that way.

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission for the past ten years has been making camps through the summer months, and we have with us representatives of the Girl Scout camps, day



camps, the Boy Scouts, the Underprivileged Kiwanis Camp at Lacombe, the Camp Salmen Permanent Camp, Boy Scouts of America, at Slidell. We also make boys' camps throughout the state in our summer program. We would like for you now to hear what they have to say to you about the program that you gave to them.

MISS AMY MEREDITH: My name is Amy Meredith from Plaquemines Parish, and I would like to thank you for letting me be here with you. I'd like you to know that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission is not to be confused with the sportsmen's school, and the Wildlife and Fisheries, Fish and Game Force, includes divisions such as seafood, pure water, water pollution, education and information for the good of this community. Thank you very much.

(Applause)

MISS SHARON PIZZALOTO: My name is Sharon Pizzaloto and I am from Plaquemine, Louisiana. I'd like to thank you for inviting me here to express my opinion on the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, Fish and Game Force. Oysters,



seafood, pure water, pollution, education and information are divisions of this Commission which make this one of the most complete and efficient conservation departments in the United States. Thank you for inviting me here.

(Applause)

MASTER JIMMY MILLER: My name is Jimmy Miller and I live in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. It is an honor to be here today. Setting of the game and waterfowl and seafood seasons and the bag limits, as well as administering millions of dollars in personnel, is some of this Commission's responsibilities.

(Applause)

FOURTH CHILD: My name is Jimmy (inaudible), also from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. I'd like to say we now know that elephants, tigers, and giraffes are not Louisiana wildlife, but nutria, beaver, mink, otter and squirrel do live here.

(Applause)

FIFTH CHILD: My name is (inaudible), New Orleans, Louisiana. I would like to thank



you for sending, thank the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission for sending me to camp. We enjoyed it. We had a fun time swimming, fishing, and arts and crafts. We enjoyed it.

(Applause)

MASTER DOUG HEATON: My name is Doug Heaton and I am from New Orleans, Louisiana. We depend on your men in the field to protect and propagate our birds, fish and seafood, water and wildlife. Thank you.

(Applause)

MASTER CHRIS MORROW: My name is Chris Morrow and I am from (inaudible). I thank you for sending the men of the Wildlife and Fisheries to write to places.

(Applause)

MASTER ROY HACK: I am Roy Hack and I live in New Orleans, Louisiana. Pink areas are on official Louisiana maps, game management areas for refuges of wildlife and waterfowl. More of these are needed in Louisiana for the increasing population and their desire to be outdoors.

(Applause)



MASTER JAMES KEATON: My name is Jim Keaton and I'm a Boy Scout and I attended Camp Salmen. The Boy Scouts of America work hard for merit badges in bird study, wildlife, reptiles and amphibians and conservation of natural resources. For your assistance to the Boy Scouts of Camp Salmen we would like to present you with this token of our appreciation.

(Presents plaque to Chairman)

(Applause)

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. On behalf of the Commission, we thank you for your interest in wildlife and we thank you for wanting to become more interested. On behalf of the Commission, I accept this Certificate of Appreciation, accept it from you, and I would also like to say on behalf of the Commission that we want to commend our own education section for the work that they have done in connection with these young people. We think it is a very valuable work. Thank you very much.

MR. WINFREE: Mr. Chairman.



THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Winfree.

MR. WINFREE: May I suggest that you read this little plaque and I further suggest that if it is not addressed to one person that it be displayed in our meeting room.

THE CHAIRMAN: "Good. We have a new meeting room. It's a good place to put it. This has the Boy Scout emblem at the top. It says, "Camp Salmen, Boy Scouts of America, take pleasure in awarding this certificate of appreciation to Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries in recognition of service rendered for summer of 1971," and it is signed by two officials.

Mr. Hoffpauer, if you would put it on the wall, when you get time. Thank you.

The first order of business is the approval of the minutes of the meetings of May 25 and June 18, 1971. I think you have been furnished copies of these. What is your pleasure?

MR. KYLE: I move approval.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Kyle. Is there a second?



MR. WRIGHT: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Wright.

Is there any discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.

Mr. Yancey. While Mr. Yancey is coming to the microphone, the item of business that he is going to discuss will be the setting of the hunting regulations for waterfowl, and if you have no objections, we would like to proceed in this manner, have Mr. Yancey or some of his people to make their recommendations and give their information, and after that we want to give everybody the opportunity to be heard that wants to be heard. We want you to keep in mind that no two people agree and that there is disagreement throughout the state. Everybody has a particular little idea that they have about a season and you have got to keep that in mind. We are not going to be able to satisfy everybody. I am told, for example, that the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, in their meetings Sunday they had a big difference of opinion, so I



am sure the sportsmen, if they see they can't all agree on something, they can't expect us to do that. We are going to try to do the best we can and come up with what we think is the best thing. It might not be the thing I want or you want, but we hope it is. Richard.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Mr. Chairman, so that people won't think we are trying to hide things, we've moved the board meeting -- this is the second meeting we have had here -- and there might be some people upstairs, looking around for where the board meeting is, why don't you get Rudy's people to go up there and tell them where this place is.

MR. YANCEY: Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission and ladies and gentlemen, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has forwarded to us the waterfowl hunting regulations for the '71-72 season and they are allowing us ten days in which to set the dates of the duck and goose seasons for Louisiana. I believe that everyone is probably aware of the fact that all of the states in the Mississippi Flyway are being offered 50 days of



duck hunting this year and 70 days of goose hunting, and I would like to assure those in attendance that the Commission has been wrestling with the setting of these dates now ever since the regulations were announced last Friday.

We have a stack of telegrams and letters and resolutions from all parts of Louisiana, recommending various and sundry opening and closing dates for the duck and goose hunting season. Of course, the Commission has consulted with its waterfowl biologists and has taken all of this into consideration in attempting to work out hunting season dates that would provide the maximum hunting opportunity for the most sportsmen in Louisiana.

I would first like to say that Canada produced a bumper crop of ducks this summer, equal to and, we think, better than 1970. We toured the prairies of Western Canada back in late July. We feel that the fall flight of ducks into this state is going to be better than it was last year. Ducks Unlimited agrees with this conclusion. The Bureau



of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, after reviewing their studies, concluded that the fall flight is going to be equal to that of last year, so we are anticipating a duck population in this state probably better than we had last year.

Additionally, waterfowl habitat conditions are excellent in the marshes this year. The marshes over in southwest Louisiana dried up back in the early spring and millet germinated. We have a tremendous duck food supply over there, and this is going to mean that we are going to hold a lot of the transient ducks longer than we normally do, so we feel that everything is shaping up in the direction of an excellent duck hunting season for the state this winter.

Of course, the blue wing teal hunting season is already set for the state. It is going to begin September 18 and run through September 26, with a bag limit of four and a possession limit of eight. Incidentally, blue wing teal are already arriving in Louisiana in substantial numbers. The fall flight is under way now. Shortly we will be



seeing a few pintails arriving in the state.

In considering the setting of the dates we have to take into consideration the migration and distribution of ducks into Louisiana, and we have two groups of ducks that come into the state. We have one group that comes through in the early fall and winters down in South America and Yucatan and southern Mexico. This is the flight that is underway now. We have a second group of ducks that move in here and stay with us for the winter. In order to take advantage of this early migration of ducks, we have to have hunting in early November. Otherwise these birds would be gone, if your season opened in late November.

Secondly, we have a migration of mallards that comes into the state up in mid-December and in order to take advantage of that late movement of birds, the wintering ducks, we have to have hunting in late December and January.

Furthermore, in analyzing all the recommendations that have come in from so many sportsmen in the state, we find that the sentiment is



divided between the duck hunters here in Louisiana. Incidentally, we had about 130,000 that hunted last year. A lot of these duck hunters want straight early seasons. A lot of them want straight late seasons. A lot of them want split seasons.

These are some of the considerations that the Commission has been wrestling with in coming up with these proposed dates. We would like to recommend, in taking into consideration all of these factors, that -- and I might point out before getting into that, November 6 would have been a good date to start the duck season. However, it is election day and we all realize it is the civic duty of every eligible citizen in this state to vote on election day, and it just would not be in order to begin the duck season on that date because a lot of these people go to the marshes and they simply would not go to vote, and everybody should vote.

The next possible date following November 6 would be Thursday, November 11. That is Veterans Day. It is a holiday for the state and it is a



a Thursday, and we feel that this would be the next logical date to open the season after this Saturday, November 6. The transient flight of pintails, widgeon, teal, shovelers and what-have-you are still moving through Louisiana at that time so this would be early enough to catch the trailing edge of that migration. We would recommend that the duck season begin on November 11, Thursday, which is Veterans Day, and run through Sunday, November 28. This would incorporate all of the Thanksgiving holidays.

Then we would recommend that the duck season close and reopen on Saturday, December 11, and run through Tuesday, January 11, for 32 days of hunting. This would be a split duck season, in order to take advantage of both movements of ducks that we have in Louisiana and also to offer the advocates of early hunting some hunting and the advocates of late hunting some hunting.

We would furthermore recommend that we select this bag limit option of six ducks daily, with two mallards allowed within this general bag



limit of six, rather than the other bag limit option, which we are permitted to take, if we would so desire, four ducks allowed daily, all of which could be mallards. We recommend this six-duck daily bag limit with the two mallards over the four-duck limit because of the fact that only about 10 percent of the ducks that we have in Louisiana are mallards. Although they do make up 20 to 25 percent of the kill, they are only about 10 to 12 percent of the ducks that come into Louisiana, mallards, so we feel that we should definitely go for this bag limit of six.

For the goose season we would recommend that we here again have a split goose season. We are allowed to split the goose season as well as the duck season without penalty. We would propose that the goose season also begin on Veterans Day, Thursday, November 11, and run through January 9, 1972, for 60 days and then that it close and that it reopen on February 5 and run for 10 days through February 14. This last segment of that split would be for purposes of solving and helping alleviate this pasture damage situation we have



over in the southwestern part of the state.

Additionally, these dates would mean that the goose season would run concurrently with both segments of the duck season except for the last two days of the duck season. The duck season would run on January 10 and 11. The goose season would not.

We feel after carefully reviewing all of the available information and consulting with everybody that is interested in this situation and reviewing all of the recommendations that we have, that these are probably the dates that are going to offer Louisiana the best hunting opportunity for the most sportsmen. I might also mention that we are again offered a bonus bag limit of two scaup which can be taken over and above this general bag limit of six in that portion of Louisiana that lies generally below Highway 90. This would be in the same area of Louisiana that the bonus scaup was allowed last year. Those are the recommendations that we wish to present.

MR. WINFREE: Do you have any figures as



to the duck kill in Louisiana last year?

MR. YANCEY: Louisiana hunters bagged about 2.6 million ducks last season. California was the only state in the country that enjoyed a larger bag than this. This actually was a tremendous increase over any kill that we have had in previous years. Because of the success that we had in last year's hunting season dates, this also was a factor in molding these recommendations generally around last year's hunting dates. Last year was a tremendously successful duck hunting season in Louisiana.

MR. WINFREE: Mr. Chairman, another question, please.

Mr. Yancey, do you feel like -- perhaps I shouldn't put you on the spot -- but do you feel because of this great kill by Louisiana hunters that that had something to do with the department cutting us five days from last year?

MR. YANCEY: I don't think there is any question about that. We don't think that that cut was in order at all and after I get through with



these dates I am going to recommend that we adopt another resolution that pertains to this five-day cut that we did suffer this year.

THE CHAIRMAN: What did they allow California this year?

MR. YANCEY: 93 days, six or seven duck ceilings.

MR. WINFREE: What you are saying is --

MR. YANCEY: California didn't get a cut. They took more ducks than we did.

MR. KYLE: Mr. Yancey, are we the only state in the Union that got a cut?

MR. YANCEY: Louisiana and Ohio and one or two other states in the Mississippi Flyway are the only states that received a restriction over last year's regulations. The other states either received equal regulations or better regulations than they had last year, and the provinces up in Canada are having the same regulations that they had last year.

MR. WINFREE: Well, that just proves to me that we have got better hunters in Louisiana and



better shots.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does anyone have any questions for Mr. Yancey before we turn the floor over to anyone that wants to be heard? Do you have a question for him?

MR. WHITNEY HEBERT: Is it possible that the early season last year provided per day some 11,000 ducks per day kill, as being the better season, the early part of November than the last part of November?

MR. YANCEY: During the first segment of the duck season last year, Louisiana hunters average 50,000 ducks a day, and during the second segment of last year's duck season they averaged 40,000 ducks a day. However, during the last five days of that last segment last year, the duck kill did pick up.

THE CHAIRMAN: That was Mr. Whitney Hebert of Lake Charles, who asked the question. All right, is there anyone who would like to be heard? O.K., Mr. Kostmayer. Do you want to come up to the mike so we can get it down in writing so



next year we can quote it back to you?

MR. HOFFPAUER: And please identify yourself.

(Laughter)

MR. KOSTMAYER: My name is Kostmayer, New Orleans Sportsmens League. There is one thing everybody has overlooked and that is that Minnesota had a lousy duck season last year. They had a low kill and they were awful unhappy with the large kill that we had. This played a tremendous part in the shenanigans that took place in that Mississippi Flyway Council. This was confirmed to me twice in the last few days in conversations with friends in the Interior Department, so we are not talking biology really. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does anybody else want to be heard that has any recommendations for seasons? Mr. Funk, Mr. Albert Funk, from Lake Charles.

MR. ALBERT FUNK: Mr. Chairman, other Members of the Commission, I know we can't all be satisfied and I am going to go along with whatever is set, but I would like to state that I believe a



straight season is better for everyone concerned, not only the ducks but also it gives the enforcement division a better chance to enforce the law. I would recommend that November 13, which would fall on a Saturday, through January 1, for the duck season, and the goose season could either open November 13 and run straight through for 70 days.

I realize the farmers have a lot of land and everything that should be, they should be helped out with this goose problem, but I think the enforcement division could help the farmers on their goose problem instead of splitting up the season. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

MR. WHITNEY HEBERT: My name is Whitney Hebert with the Calcasieu Rod and Gun Club out of Lake Charles, and I am a very hard supporter of Ducks Unlimited. As a matter of fact, we worked very hard last year and I think we turned in, Jerry, wasn't it somewhere around \$9,000.00?

Fellows, I have contacted, personally sat down in my office and contacted a lot of the



duck hunters in southwest Louisiana, and they have all come up -- I would say 90 percent of them -- have come up with the dates of November 13 to January 1. Of course, I am also a youth worker and I am in full agreement with giving the youth the full privilege of hunting, because I am youth counsel for a bunch of boys and I enjoy doing this work.

Fellows, this recommendation to me -- Veterans Day is a holiday that most people don't get off from work. Now my boss may get off from work and I am one of his supervisors, but, doggone, he makes me work anyway, so I really don't see and I can't see for the love of anything opening the season on a Thursday, the first season. This is one of my biggest objections to this season. I am like Albert Funk. I am a law-abiding citizen and I will certainly go by anything that you suggest here and you will never catch me in violation, you can be assured of that, but I would to suggest the same recommendation Mr. Funk did, November 13 to January 1, and let the goose run straight through.



A lot of this is for the purpose of law enforcement. Just for the life of anybody, I can't see opening this on Veterans Day, I can't see the purpose of it. I just, for the life of anybody, can't see opening this on Veterans Day. I can't see the purpose of it. I would like to get a definition of it. Like I said, I'm strictly for the law enforcement, and nobody will ever come out there and catch me getting one duck too many because I'm not going to do that.

But, fellows, this is way off. As far as I am concerned, this is way off the ladder, November 11. I would like to go November 13 through January 1.

MR. YANCEY: January 1, New Year's Day?

MR. HEBERT: Yes, sir. This has been recommended. I wish I had brought that sheet of paper I have in my office. Out of about 45 or 46 -- what did I tell you? -- people I called, I had 30-some people that wanted November 13 through January 1.

MR. HOFFPAUER: We got 43 wires from them.



MR. HEBERT: Well, you can rest assured that I had something to do with it. I will go along with that. I feel very strongly on this duck season. About six years ago, eight years ago, I quit duck hunting when I had a heart attack and I went back to duck hunting and my heart ain't never bothered me since, so I feel that recreation is one of the greatest things in the world and duck hunting has become in Louisiana one of the greatest things that we have ever had as far as I am concerned.

As I say, I thank you for your time and whatever you decide on, I will certainly abide by it, but I would certainly like to see you people give consideration to November 13 through January 1. Thank you.

MR. WINFREE: Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir.

MR. WINFREE: I might tell you, sir, that this Commission for the first time has sat seven members on the Commission and there are seven different opinions on this Commission when this duck season should be open. I thought I might add



that to you.

MR. HEBERT: I'll go along with your opinion.

MR. WINFREE: There are seven different opinions right now.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there anyone else that would like to be heard?

MR. WRIGHT: Mr. Chairman, I would make a motion that we accept our biologists' recommendation and open the season on November 11, close it on the 28th, reopen it on the 11th and close it on January 11, and the goose season, November 11 to January 9, open it on the 5th of February and let it run through the 14th of February.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the motion by Mr. Wright. Is there a second?

MR. KYLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Ed Kyle seconded. Is there any discussion? Let me start the discussion off by saying, Whitney, I received all those telegrams, and in addition I received a bunch of phone calls, and they weren't necessarily people that



somebody instigated and got them all to call. A lot of people called on their own. As far as the people in southwest Louisiana, they want that season, as you suggest. If I were casting the vote to set the season, that's how I would do it. I think, as Mr. Winfree said, if any particular member of the Commission was casting his vote alone to set the season, I don't necessarily think it would be like what we have here, because we are trying to satisfy certain goose hunters, certain people here, certain people there, and as you say, there is going to be an objection. You have an objection about opening on a Thursday. Well, I agree with you, but you have to weigh all of these things, and you are going to weigh all of these things, and if you are going to have some objection, you just have to get the one, I guess, that has the least.

I concur with you, if I were setting the season. I certainly would agree with what you recommended. It would be the best thing for southwest Louisiana, I have no doubt in my mind,



and everybody else here would have their own opinion.

Does anybody on the Board have any discussion before we vote?

MR. WALKER: I just about share the same views as you do, Jerry. I came down with my mind made up, but I find that I have had to reconsider and take in all the facets that have been presented to me. Our biologists changed my mind more than anyone else, and although the people in my area of the state prefer a straight season, November 13-January 1, I am going to support the recommendation of our biologists.

THE CHAIRMAN: Along that line, you know, it is a kind of amusing topic. Every time we have to set a season of some kind and if we are going to set it and it's not necessarily going to please everybody, it's a good thing we have some good biologists, because we can always blame it on them, see, so we thank them for that privilege we have.

MR. HOFFPAUER: We haven't heard from Mr. Bosch yet.



(Inaudible discussion)

THE CHAIRMAN: The proposal he has here is concurrent with the duck season except for two days, and the reason for that is to pick up two days which would be weekdays and then put them in February to make a weekend so you would have two weekends of goose hunting. That is the whole purpose of doing it.

Is there any other comment that anyone has? Does anybody want to defend their position? O.K. All those in favor of the motion, raise your hand.

(Show of hands)

THE CHAIRMAN: Unanimous.

MR. YANCEY: Mr. Chairman, we would also like to suggest now that you adopt a resolution objecting to this five-day cut in the number of duck hunting days that were allowed.

THE CHAIRMAN: You will draft the appropriate resolution?

MR. YANCEY: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do I hear a motion?



MR. WRIGHT: So move.

MR. KYLE: I would like to say something.

MR. YANCEY: It is to be presented to the Department of Interior, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, with copies going to the Congressional delegation. I will say one thing, we got a lot of help out of the Congressional delegation because about two or three days before the regulations were announced, we found out that they were only going to allow us five ducks in the bag and as a result of their efforts it was boosted to six, but they were not able to get the number of days back up to what we had last year.

THE CHAIRMAN: Don't you think we should also express our appreciation to the Congressional delegation for what they did on this?

MR. YANCEY: That would certainly be in order.

THE CHAIRMAN: I have an idea that is what Ed was going to say.

MR. KYLE: When we left Washington, the Interior Department people, the statistics they presented were in complete agreement with what Dick



and his group found and believed. It was the first time in a long time that they matched, and we left on a very amicable note. I thought that there was peace. If not verbally at least by implication we were assured we were going to get the same thing as we did this year, and it turned out that the day before they had had a meeting, the day before the Director was supposed to go on vacation they had a meeting, and they had decided fifty and five, and that's when the whole delegation went to work.

MR. HOFFPAUER: That's the Director of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

MR. KYLE: The Director of Sport Fishing. The whole delegation went to work and saved the six ducks but it is just pure vindictiveness and I feel that we should express our opinion, in addition to thanking the delegation for what they did for us.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you second that motion?

MR. KYLE: I second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Kyle, that we express our



indignation to the Department of Interior and our appreciation to the Congressional delegation. Is there any further discussion?

MR. KYLE: Mr. Chairman, is there any way to word that thing to put in that we consider the Department of Interior people sons of bachelors?

THE CHAIRMAN: I suggest you get together with Mr. Yancey and you all work out those technicalities about the words you want to put in there. Whitney?

MR. HEBERT: I just want to know -- as a matter of fact, I did some work for the Wild Life et cetera last year, and I'd like the Commission to give this a thought. Maybe by us pulling away from the Mississippi Flyway it had some kind of adverse effect. It was brought up in our meeting Sunday. I just thought I would make that same suggestion, Dick, for consideration, whether it might have had an adverse effect.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Do you know that we have had ten times better seasons than we ever had since we got out of the Mississippi Flyway?



MR. YANCEY: Whitney, let me bring up one point. You are aware of the fact that the Flyway Council voted to keep the teal season closed and they voted in 1969 in the spring not to open a duck season in 1969 at all, and 1969 was the best duck year in the entire decade of the Sixties. Now do we want to be a part of an organization like that or not?

MR. HEBERT: It was not my suggestion. It was brought out Sunday at the meeting, and I just thought the Commission should know what was brought out.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, to clarify things to you, we told the Mississippi Flyway people and the Department of Interior what our objections were to the setup of the Flyway Council. We haven't closed the doors. We told them what we thought was wrong, and really this bears it out.

MR. YANCEY: Yes, two years ago, Whitney, the Commission had a meeting with representatives of the Interior Department right here in this building and one of the recommendations expressed



at that meeting was that they would appoint a representative to work with the southern states like their representative now works with the northern states in the Mississippi Flyway, that we have somebody down here that would represent us, understand our problems, and go to bat for us up in Washington. At that time they indicated to us that they would appoint someone, but no one has ever been appointed.

MR. WINFREE: May I point out, Mr. Chairman, since this has come up now, at our meeting in Washington, and what Mr. Yancey is saying relative to us meeting with these federal people two years, we suggested the appointment perhaps of a man for the southern region and one for the northern region of the Flyway, so he could be in better contact with Louisiana problems. Well, at our meeting in Washington two or three weeks ago, a man named Mr. Spencer Smith -- is that correct?

MR. YANCEY: Right.

MR. WINFREE: Mr. Smith asked us point blank why or perhaps we should be back in this Flyway, and he pointed out at that time that he



realized what had transpired down here and he was in the process then of realigning these agents or these representatives and perhaps moving them around, and I told him at that time in the presence of Hob Norris, Ed Kyle and our Director and Dick Yancey that I, for one, was willing to go back into a Flyway based on a study that was being conducted now as to whether we should be in the Central Flyway or the Mississippi Flyway, and if they would continue to talk the way they were, that is, realigning and putting a man down in this area that could work with us, that I felt like we should go back in.

Of course, that is just my own opinion that I am expressing. I personally think that we could and should be in a Flyway, whether it be the Central or the Mississippi, but at the same time I am not agreeing with this resolution that they are proposing now, the first part. I think we could commend all right, but I don't believe in getting people mad before you get back with them, and I can't go along with the indignation of this



Commission as against the Interior, because the Interior people were as nice as they could be to us.

Now what happened besides that I don't know, but I don't want to make those people any madder than what they are because the door is still open. I, for one, am not going to vote for this resolution to show indignation, because I think we are getting something accomplished and I think we should be back in the Flyway. Whether it will come to pass in the next two years, I don't know, but I do agree with you. I think perhaps we should be.

MR. KYLE: Mr. Winfree, I thought for a time -- every now and then after I talk to the Interior Department, I feel that they are so nice that we should get back in the Flyway. Now I won't say that these people have ever told us an untruth. I say, after talking to them and the week after leaving, I wake up to the fact that I completely misunderstood the people and if I can't understand people, I won't say they are not honorable, but I just would rather not associate with



them and don't think that the Commission should put themselves in a position until the Interior Department, shall we say, is going to talk in language that we can understand the week after leaving and believe them.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Mr. Winfree and Mr. Chairman, you mean you feel we just have a little knife in the back?

MR. WINFREE: Well, since we are kicking this issue around, Mr. Chairman, I think we are talking about two different people, Mr. Director, and you, too, Ed. The people we met with, as I understand it, this Mr. Smith is taking the place of this Mr. Godchaux, that is, temporarily. This undersecretary, assistant secretary, Mr. Reed, is taking the place of Dr. Glasgow. That man sat there and didn't tell us anything, if you recall, Ed Kyle. He was most complimentary for Louisiana coming up there. He was most complimentary for our biologists and the statistics that they had furnished him, and then he suggested that instead they were in the process of realigning the whole



areas of these things and would perhaps place some people down there, and at that time I spoke up. I said, "If you would do that, I think we can get together on the Flyway." If you recall, they did not tell us anything. They thanked us for coming up there and they said that their figures almost agree with ours and they took our recommendation. That's all they could do. They didn't promise us anything.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any other discussion? We have a motion made and seconded. Are you ready to vote on the motion? All those in favor of the motion, raise your hands.

MR. WINFREE: Which motion are we voting on now?

THE CHAIRMAN: On the one to express indignation to the Department of Interior and commending the Congressional Delegation.

MR. WINFREE: Can you put it in two parts, make two resolutions?

MR. KYLE: While I said, Mr. Winfree, I didn't think probably they directly promised us,



they certainly left us with the impression that we were going to get the same season, and I think we ought to have it in one resolution.

THE CHAIRMAN: O.K. All those in favor of the motion, raise your right hand.

(Show of hands)

THE CHAIRMAN: Let's see. Mr. Walker, Mr. Norris, Mr. Wright, Mr. Kyle, Mr. Autin. All those opposed?

MR. WINFREE: I am opposed to the indignation part.

THE CHAIRMAN: I understand.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

WHEREAS, the conservation of migratory waterfowl is of great importance to Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the hunting of ducks and geese is enjoyed annually by 125,000 sportsmen in this state alone; and

WHEREAS, the members of the



Louisiana Congressional delegation strongly supported the establishment of reasonable hunting regulations by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, for the 1971-72 season,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby go on record as expressing its appreciation to the members of the Louisiana Congressional delegation for their continued assistance in the proper management of waterfowl in this state.

WHEREAS, the waterfowl hunting regulations for the 1971-72 hunting seasons were received from the United States Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Department of the Interior, on August 16, 1971, and

WHEREAS, it was then revealed that a ten percent restriction in the



number of days of duck hunting was imposed upon this state below that allowed last year, and

WHEREAS, the regulations further showed that the other flyways and many of the states in the Mississippi Flyway other than Louisiana received regulations equal to or better than last year, and

WHEREAS, the 1971 fall flight of ducks will equal, and probably exceed, the excellent fall flight of 1970,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby express its indignation to the unnecessary restriction imposed on waterfowl hunting in Louisiana for the forthcoming season, and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution



be forwarded to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and members of the Louisiana Congressional delegation.

THE CHAIRMAN: Bob LeFleur. Bob has a short report for us.

MR. HOFFPAUER: This is more or less an interim report of the status of the Water Pollution Control Division, of which Bob is the chief, and he is also executive secretary of the Stream Control Commission. The resume briefly will tell you what this Commission has been doing.

MR. ROBERT LeFLEUR: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Members of the Board, Mr. Chairman of the Stream Control Commission, ladies and gentlemen and fellow polluters.

This little resume of activities is supported with appendices which I will not read for you. Merely I will go through the several items which I have numerically listed, and it lists for you the activities of this Division of



Water Pollution Control of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, primarily as a technical fact-finding group for an enforcement arm of the Louisiana Stream Control Commission and, with regards to one statute, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

We have continued the statewide water quality monitoring program that was initiated in 1958. This program involves the collecting of some 66 water samples from some 33 streams in the state. Fifteen analyses are run on each water sample, totalling perhaps approximately 1,000 per month, or totalling some 12,000 per year. These data, in addition to being used to develop the water quality standards for the Louisiana streams when we comply with the Federal Water Quality Act of 1965, are up-to-date records on the water quality of each stream, and they are used to advise the Stream Control Commission relative to proposals of industrial waste discharges to each of the streams.

Our laboratories also analyzed many mud and water samples for other divisions of Louisiana



Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, initiated inspection of plant waste treatment facilities to include at least one such inspection per year. I might add at this point that we are not, repeat, we are not staffed adequately to perform one inspection per year on each of the some 280 industries that discharge waste under permit by the Louisiana Stream Control Commission. However, we seek to reach that goal.

We maintain routine inspection and stream surveillance over the streams throughout the entire state. The field personnel on their own initiative conduct investigations of pollution problems encountered and they investigate water pollution complaints, fish kills and so forth filed with the division by the general public.

During the sugar cane grinding season we sample and analyze the discharges from some 43 sugar houses or raw sugar factories in the state. This is on a weekly basis.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Bob, I might add that these sugar factories have really cleaned up in



the past few years, compared to what they were.

MR. LEFLEUR: Yes. I think during the past year, with respect to the sugar factories, we held two public hearings, really three, because the third of those three hearings was merely a picking up where we left off on the second one.

We have initiated a study on the surface soil runoff in the Saline Lake from the cultivated areas in the northern part of Avoyelles Parish as it borders on Catahoula. We conduct a monitoring program for mercury and other selected heavy metals in the Mississippi and the Calcasieu Rivers. I might also add that we selected as some sort of background data the Mermentau. Interestingly enough, people, we found mercury in Six Mile Lake. One asks, "Where does it come from?" Our best guess at this point is it probably came from the mercury percussion caps that we used on the Fort Polk artillery range. Another note about this mercury, we are still in dark deep question about many of the results of the analytical work that went on in the various laboratories, not only here



in the state, in our own laboratories, but in the federal labs, both in Ada, Oklahoma and in Cincinnati, Ohio.

We are monitoring streams in the northwest part of the state where aerial applications of Mirex or ferrate bait was conducted. Those samples are now going through our laboratory in that analytical program.

We have continued negotiations by the technical staff of the Stream Control Commission with the Federal Water Pollution Control Agency to reach agreeable standards to comply with the Federal Water Quality Act of 1965. One note in detail about that. For the fourth time, Louisiana Stream Control Commission has submitted standards on dissolved dioxygens, which of course is one of the parameters in our water quality package and they have been recommended for approval by the regional office in Dallas, Texas, and for the fourth time have been rejected by the Washington level, for reasons better known to somebody else. I have never yet been able to discuss this matter



on a technical basis with those who disagree with me. All I get is the official notice of rejection.

We have also almost completed the survey report on the lower Calcasieu River. This was begun in 1969. It was interfered with in 1970 because of many other interferences such as the mercury escapade that you heard about last year. We have initiated a complete stream survey on the Red River to determine base line conditions prior to the construction of navigational structures in that stream. Our reason for wanting this is simply the fact that we do believe, indeed we are convinced, that navigational structures have little to do with the enhancement of the assimilative capacity of a stream to handle waste discharged to it albeit the waste discharges to the Red River at this time are for the most part, the largest quantity, that of domestic waste. The quality of the water of Red River is not very good and perhaps that is one of the reasons we don't use it too much. It has a high salt content that gets into it as it meanders along between the states of



Oklahoma and Texas.

We also cast a wary eye at our neighboring state to the west of us, the great state of Texas, who is seeking to divert all of the water from the Cypress and the Sulphur away from the Red and into the Trinity basin. This will leave us on a median average or median flow basis with about 35 percent less flow and will leave us in Louisiana with the worst of what is left. This diversion, of course, is part of the Texas water use plan.

We have continued a joint effort with the Environmental Protection Agency on a study of the Mississippi River from Baton Rouge to New Orleans and of the industrial discharges to the river in this same area. This work was begun at the request of the Stream Control Commission, this technical assistance, under the provisions of the Clean Rivers Restoration Act of 1966. This Commission requested this technical assistance because we recognized that we were not either geared or staffed to tackle this big a job. The request was made in March of '67 and it took some 18 months to



get that work under way. To date some 25 or 30 complex organic materials or compounds have been detected. About half a dozen of them have been identified or rather tracked back to the source and all of those have either been abated or eliminated.

We have developed on an annual basis an annual work plan grant application to qualify for federal funds under Public Law 660. This means that something in excess of 50 percent of the funds that the Division of Water Pollution Control operates on on an annual basis come from the EPA, Environmental Protection Agency, under the provisions of Public Law 660.

We are jointly with the Louisiana Department of Health developing 30 basin plans for the state of Louisiana as required by the Federal Water Improvement Act of 1970. Completed plans in this matter in this case are due not later than July, 1973. This item can have a tremendous effect on the municipalities because it is clearly written in the regulations drawn from this Water Improvement Act of 1970 that any municipality that sought



construction grant funds for construction of its sewage treatment facilities would not get these funds unless and/or until at least an interim plan is developed on each of these basins. There are 13 of these basins. Only one thus far has been prepared at the interim level.

We have continued to coordinate pollution abatement activities with the Department of Conservation in the area of oil field waste pollution and similar activities with the enforcement division of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. I think the Board members and everybody else concerned received a news release in the past week indicating some data on that latter.

Within the Division of Water Pollution Control and our own staff, we have filed at least 15 charges. Those are enumerated for you on one of the appendices, with the various district attorneys.

With the Louisiana Department of Health we have participated with the Environmental Protection Agency in evaluation of Louisiana's water pollution control program. I have provided for you



a copy of that report. We do not agree with all that is in that report.

There is a question I think you are raising?

MR. HOFFPAUER: -- over what they recommend for the staff --

MR. LeFLEUR: Yes, I can't break it down for you exactly, Mr. Hoffpauer, because they have us lumped in this report with the Department of Health, who in this state has the jurisdiction in the field of domestic waste. In the Stream Control Commission we confine our activities primarily, if not exclusively, to industrial waste.

But to give you an idea what it looks like and what they are recommending, we currently, lumping the Department of Health and the Stream Control Commission's technical staff, have a man-year staff of approximately 45 people. This report, developed by EPA, recommends that by 1974 we have a staff of 138 people.

Budgetwise, we have a combined budget of .5 million dollars. This report would recommend that this budget be increased to 1.8 million



dollars. The first draft of the report recommended an annual budget of 2.1, so they scaled it down, recognizing the stark reality of the status quo, that it simply wasn't in the cards, not at least from our vantage point.

The division personnel has actively participated in seminars and on panel discussions and spoke before civic groups, clubs, students and so forth, relative to our water pollution control program, division activities, Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries policies, and the Stream Control Commission rules, regulations and policies. The Chief of the Division has spent considerable time seeking new pollution control legislation and/or amending some existing legislation. I might add there that in 1970 I was a party to trying to nurse two bills through the legislature. They were a combination of amending and re-enacting of two sections of the law that were in the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission as apart from the Stream Control Commission. We came out pretty good there, except that there was written into that an



amendment which makes out of agriculture a sacred cow. It exempts any pollution or fish kills that might result from an act of God or an accidental pollution or things of that nature, so there is very little we can do, if you want to know the honest truth about it, in the case of the pesticide situation. I find it a rather repugnant development.

The Division Chief, in his capacity as Secretary of the Stream Control Division, is also serving as President of the Board of Directors of the Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators, and he was recently appointed by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington to serve as one of the three vice-chairmen on a standing advisory committee to offer views and advise on the proposed policies and legislation aimed at preventing and/or abating water pollution.

Now there comes a rather strange turn of events. I only got ahold of this yesterday and I have been trying to track it down since, or I



think maybe day before yesterday. There is, gentlemen, a bill in the Congress which is getting some blessing, by the way, before the House Public Works Committee. It is a Senate Bill. It was sired by the great Senator Muskie of Maine and he, you will recall, sired the Water Quality Act of 1965. It has us rather thoroughly confused, because it says that while we, when we develop the water quality standards and the plan for implementation, specify the level of treatment and a deadline to get same accomplished, and that date is December, 1972, this bill -- and again I repeat, it is simply yet a bill - seeks to set that deadline to 1980. We seem to be caught in the lurch.

With respect to the Water Improvement Act of 1970 and the 1899 Refuse Act which was resurrected by a decision of the Supreme Court and an Executive Order issued by the President of the United States, we have issued letters of certification for industrial waste discharges in this state under the provisions of these two acts that I just mentioned. An estimated 2,500 certifications



will be issued. I currently have or estimate somewhere between 250 and 300 of these letters yet to write.

We have issued approximately 1,000 letters of no objection relative to the construction of docks, dredging of canals, laying of pipelines and telephone cables, as provided for by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. We have reviewed applications to discharge treated waste, proposed waste treatment facilities and so forth for the Stream Control Commission. We have held two public hearings, one on Vermilion and then one on Bayou Teche. Intensive stream surveys of the streams and industrial waste and municipal discharges into the streams were included in the report prepared and presented at each of the two hearings.

Fifteen Stream Control Commission meetings have been held since July 1, 1970. 107 new permits were considered. 194 permits were reviewed to determine the level of treatment being provided by the industries in the state. Based on the permit review, the Commission required, if it saw



fit, required additional treatment if inadequate treatment was being provided at the time.

May I at this time take this opportunity to those of you who have not, and there are a number of you who have not attended a Stream Control Commission meeting, our next one is here in this room on Wednesday, August 25, and you should listen in on some of these donnybrooks.

The Stream Control Commission has issued seven notices of determination, six cease and desist orders, and seven temporary injunctions during the past year. The temporary injunctions are temporary stop orders that call for a hearing within a period of five days, but the order is in no case good for more than twenty.

That constitutes my report, gentlemen.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Point of information. You mentioned letters of no objection to dredging of canals. This has nothing to do with SCC, does it? They don't run that through there, do they?

MR. LeFLEUR: Not yet. I am fully expecting it will. Along that line, I might



mention, Mr. Hoffpauer, that based on an analysis of some spoils that were analyzed, that came from and were analyzed from muck that was dredged out of Lake Erie, there were six parameters assigned and there were maximum values assigned to these six parameters by the Environmental Protection Agency, and there is an attempt now to apply these maximum values across the board throughout the United States.

The Commission took this matter under advisement because of proposals to dredge out the mouth of the Chefuncte and Bayou Bonfouca as they come into Lake Pontchartrain. Some of those values of a couple of the parameters were in excess of the maximum limits recommended. The Commission, however -- and I felt they were quite right -- went along with it and approved this discharge. It might be interesting to note that there are few, if any, dredging projects in this state, for whatever the reason, that could meet these various, these six parameters or be within the maximum limits of values or limits set by these six parameters.



THE CHAIRMAN: Bob, what is your opinion about consolidating the functions of the Air Pollution Control Commission and the Water Control?

MR. LeFLEUR: I have some mixed feelings about that, Mr. Jones, and it happens that I just perhaps can remember just a little bit too much. I recall that in 1939 or '40, when a reform administration came into this state, and at that time all of the environmentally oriented agencies with the exception of the Health Department were under one big head called the Department of Conservation, and that thing became so awkward and cumbersome that it was extremely difficult, if not impossible, to handle. So we broke it all up and we have now today the Department of Conservation as we know it exists, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, the Forestry Commission and the Recreation and Parks Commission.

Of course you will also remember that the Stream Control Commission did not at that time exist.

To get all of these various aspects of



the environment under one head and appoint one man to run the whole show will require, in my judgment, some sort of a genius in getting cooperation and communication. Can he be so well informed as to be able to handle such a thing is a question that lies in my mind.

I think we have, if I might say so, I think we have in the Air Control Commission, though it was only formed in 1964, an agency that in getting off the ground has done a pretty good job, and I am thoroughly impressed with the activities of the Stream Control Commission.

THE CHAIRMAN: You are satisfied with the organizational structure of the environmental protection agencies in Louisiana?

MR. LefLEUR: Yes, I am, and I hasten to add that I am watching the confusion and chaos which is reigning supreme in Washington with respect to trying to combine all of these agencies up there. I visited the other day in Washington with the general counsel of EPA, and all of these people are lawyers, and I question the advisability. I am



not trying to degrade the lawyers. We have one on our Board. They are a necessary evil. You have to have them to keep you out of trouble.

(Laughter)

But I think when you have an agency such as this one that deals with scientific complex matters, that to have that agency completely run by a legal staff is not, in my judgment, the best route to go. I question if or not this earth is going to be inherited by attorneys and insects, if you want to know the truth about it.

(Laughter)

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me ask you one further question. I just noticed this in this other report. You don't really have any enforcement staff working for you, where you really prosecute these people yourself? You have to rely upon either the district attorneys or the Attorney General's office to take the matter into court?

MR. LefLEUR: That's correct.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you see any advantage in providing your organization with, for example,



a legal staff and with the legal authority, where you take them into court yourself?

MR. LeFLEUR: Yes, sir. I think that if I had an attorney on the Stream Control Commission retained by the Commission rather than having him borrowed or by law designated from the Attorney General's office, I have a feeling that there would be an improvement over the status quo. I can't be sure about that, but I think so.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is the setup such right now that all they would have to do is hire a lawyer?

MR. LeFLEUR: Yes, but then we will just have to figure out where we get that kind of money, but you are right.

THE CHAIRMAN: Wait a minute. We have two on our staff now, with the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. Why can't you use those?

MR. LeFLEUR: I have tried to use those on occasion.

THE CHAIRMAN: What is the problem?

MR. LeFLEUR: Well, I'll tell you about that over a --

THE CHAIRMAN: No, I am being sincere.



MR. LefLEUR: Well, I think if you want to know the God honest truth about it, I think that these are hot potatoes every once in a while, and they are very much perhaps like the district attorneys. They don't want to handle them on a local basis. This is why somebody with the Stream Control Commission or as it might be if we could get good cooperation out of the Attorney General's office, might be a better route to travel.

THE CHAIRMAN: Because the two lawyers we have, I have never seen them turn their back on anything and they are working for us.

MR. LefLEUR: No comment.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Well, you look at the logistics of the thing, having the lawyers in New Orleans and his office in Baton Rouge, which is not very feasible.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, if you go to court, they can drive to Baton Rouge.

MR. HOFFPAUER: No, I am talking about working up the details before you go to court.

THE CHAIRMAN: Because one of the things



on this agenda you have here, you show all of these things. For example, so many of these, no action.

MR. LeFLEUR: In the case of the Stream Control Commission?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, well, joint --

MR. LeFLEUR: Oh, in the case of the chart -- wait a minute now. Which one do you have reference to, Mr. Jones?

THE CHAIRMAN: These are the charges. Of course, they couldn't assume that function.

MR. LeFLEUR: That would be a case where the district attorneys, in most instances, have refused to take the case. A district attorney can refuse to take a case. He can nolle pros it or he can for lack of proper evidence --

THE CHAIRMAN: When you are going to attempt to shut somebody down, that's when you need your staff to go to court, right?

MR. LeFLEUR: No, sir. I don't need a staff to go to court to shut somebody down. We have that authority under the Stream Control Commission, if you will notice those temporary stop orders, of



which I think there were seven issued during the past year.

THE CHAIRMAN: What would you need lawyers to do for you?

MR. LefLEUR: In the event that there is a non-compliance with one of these orders issued by the Commission or a violation of one of those orders issued by the Commission, and also let me remind you that any action, including legal action, enforcement action, in the courts must come as a result of action of the Stream Control Commission in an official regular meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN: What I am saying is, can't you use the two lawyers we have?

MR. LefLEUR: I guess we could. I have tried.

THE CHAIRMAN: They won't do it?

MR. LefLEUR: Well, no comment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, I mean they work for us now.

MR. LefLEUR: Well, bear in mind again most of the actions that are taken here in respect to the Stream Control Commission, you have by law



designated the Attorney General's office for the prosecuting attorney.

THE CHAIRMAN: I realize that, but we have the staff already. Now if all he tells us is "Use your lawyer," you can't say, "I don't have any lawyers in my office to do it."

MR. LefLEUR: Well, that may be right. What I thought you were aiming at and what I would have preferred or at least like to try would be to have an attorney retained by the Stream Control Commission for and only for the purposes of advising in legal matters.

THE CHAIRMAN: I don't see why you can't take one of ours. We have two.

MR. LefLEUR: Would you like to assign him?

THE CHAIRMAN: I sure would. I don't know about the rest of the Board.

MR. LefLEUR: I'll give it some consideration. I don't know.

MR. HOFFPAUER: We don't go into court that much. A few shrimpers sue us.



MR. LefLEUR: Yes, for half a million dollars, I notice.

(Laughter)

THE CHAIRMAN: I am serious about that. They are on the payroll. They don't mind working, either one of them. They are good lawyers. You wouldn't have any objection, Mr. Kyle; you wouldn't have any objection?

MR. HOFFPAUER: I didn't know there was any difficulty at all existed here.

MR. LefLEUR: I have had district attorneys just flatly tell me that they would refuse to accept those charges.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Oh, I know that, but we can't do anything about that.

MR. LefLEUR: That's right.

MR. KYLE: Do you need a resolution to get this?

THE CHAIRMAN: I don't know. They work for Mr. Hoffpauer. If they don't want to work, you can get somebody else. We can't fire them. Mr. Hoffpauer can.



(Inaudible discussion among Board members.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Any further questions?

MR. HOFFPAUER: I would just like to commend you for your past actions and also this report. I realize that you are understaffed and do need some more money. I think you are doing a real good job.

THE CHAIRMAN: On behalf of the Commission, Bob, I want to express our appreciation to you. I think you are doing a good job.

Mr. Ted O'Neil.

MR. TED O'NEIL: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the Commission, it is time to set the trapping season and I have written the various landowners, trappers, buyers, and asked if they had any recommendations toward a change. They knew what our seasons were in the past. I have not received any replies except, "Let's have the same seasons we had last year," so I will recommend that we set the trapping season on all fur bearers December 1 through February 28, and I have a resolution here naming the different fur bearers.



MR. KYLE: Mr. O'Neil, I think February this year, in 1972, is going to have 29 days.

MR. O'NEIL: I am sure then that we will go to the end of the month.

MR. KYLE: That's what I was thinking. Instead of the 28th, make it the 29th.

MR. O'NEIL: The 29th.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright. Is there a second?

MR. KYLE: I second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Kyle. Is there any further discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered. Thank you, Ted.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries



Commission does hereby set the trapping season for nutria, beaver, mink, muskrat, otter, raccoon, opossum, and skunk for the 1971-72 season from December 1, 1971 through February 29, 1972.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if additional time is required to prevent the overpopulation of nutria and muskrat in some areas, recommendations for an extended season be presented to the Commission's January, 1972, Board meeting.

MR. SONNY SUMMERSGILL: May I ask a few questions?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir. Why don't you come over here so we can hear you? Please state your name.

MR. SUMMERSGILL: Sonny Summersgill. Mr. Chairman, we find ourselves with quite a problem as to nutria this year. This is not my purpose of being here. I was accused of plotting a while ago. We have lost all sales of meat and



Mr. O'Neil and I have discussed this back and forth, and for the last six weeks or two months we have been going back and forth from the Washington delegation and to the various outlets. Without the meat sales those of us who are familiar with any of the trapping industry know what it means.

I am going to ask that the Board please ask Mr. O'Neil to help us, either through resolution or directive, as much as he possibly can, in an attempt to persuade Agriculture to get us back into commission. It would take us a week to explain it, but he is aware of the problem and I would ask this of the Commission.

THE CHAIRMAN: What do you want him to do? You have problems with the sales of the meat now?

MR. SUMMERSGILL: Mr. O'Neil is well, well aware of this. We have talked about it I guess twenty times already. The federal government is the only outlet, and with this loss of this sale in Texas we have no way of disposing of



meat at all, and this is -- what? Eight million pounds? Eight to ten million pounds annually.

MR. HOFFPAUER: The dog food people don't fool with it any more?

MR. SUMMERSGILL: We think that this will be the last year that we need this outlet. We have been working, research, for three or four years, going into dog food. The seasonal availability of three months makes it prohibitive. They have got to operate on a year-round basis, and they are reluctant to either inventory frozen products or a canned product. It becomes too expensive. So I would ask that of the Commission.

MR. O'NEIL: I think I should explain a little bit more about it.. It is quite a complicated situation that we find ourselves in, and I think that it should be explained. The fur division actually pioneered the use of the nutria meat years ago to the mink ranchers. It was used to raise mink. Well, most of us know what has happened to the mink ranchers. They have all gone broke in the last eight or ten years. We did find



an outlet in the Mission Screw-worm Control. They were raising screw-worm flies and using our nutria meat in Mission, Texas. They actually set up a 200-mile wide strip, completely across southern Texas, and kept this strip free of screw-worm flies. They would cultivate the flies at Mission in their plant and then run the flies through a cobalt solution that sterilized them and then would go along in airplanes and turn them loose on a 200-mile wide strip to keep the screw-worm flies from coming up from Mexico. That did clear up all of Texas of screw-worm. We were in it to sell nutria meat but it did increase the deer population tremendously in southern Texas. Also, it cut down the use of personnel on the ranches to control the screw-worms in cattle.

The Game Commission, Agriculture Commission, worked with us. Everyone was well aware of this program, but now the reason they don't want nutria meat any more, they are going into a crash program into Mexico, and they are going to use 20 million pounds of a dry product that they



have come up with. We can't produce 20 million pounds of nutria meat. We can only produce eight or ten million pounds, and our product, the way it has to be frozen and carried into Mexico and handled, it will cost, it is a pity, but it will cost us 25 percent more than the dry product, and that's what we are up against.

Can we get our Senators and Representatives, our Washington people on the Appropriations Committee, and the Agriculture people, to go along and try to get us to use one more year, or get them to accept seven, or at least six million pounds of nutria meat to keep us going one more year until Sonny gets this dog food plant in operation. I think we can go along after that.

Sonny, do you think we can make it if we get one more year out of the screw-worm program?

MR. SUMMERSGILL: Yes, I do, Mr. O'Neil. I feel pretty sure that we can. On your steel-jawed trap, you could have just changed that, the article that Mr. Yancey wrote, and substituted the loss of nutria meat sales and it would accomplish



the same thing. Historically, the meat has been the profit to the trapper. His pelt has been his break-even. Without that, we are going to come up with problems, the same thing that Dick had, the eat-outs, the loss to cane, rice, loss of income to the trapper in the coastal area of Louisiana, which is at that time very important. This money has an awful lot of velocity. It swings around and buys a lot of white beans for these guys. We are going to use that approach. We are trying to coordinate all efforts possible with Mr. O'Neil, and show that this 25 percent additional is far less than what it would cost the state not to harvest this nutria crop, loss of straight income and agricultural damage.

MR. NORRIS: Mr. Summersgill.

MR. SUMMERSGILL: Yes.

MR. NORRIS: What efforts have you all made through the delegation so far?

MR. SUMMERSGILL: We have contacted, I personally have talked to, I guess, three, four of the guys. When Dr. Glasgow was there, we were



working on it as far back as then. I made two trips up there. As a matter of fact, Mr. LeFleur came back with us on one of them. We have been seeing this. We have been doing everything within our power to find another outlet. I say "we." There is a combine of three of us that produce about 95 percent of the state's meat.

We are now working with a group out of Tulsa on deboning the meat so that it can be put into the dog food. The protein value of this product is the equivalent of horsemeat at half the price, so we feel that we can get the outlet, but it is just something that we have got to get somebody to accept. We saved 200,000 pounds from last year, but we had to can it.

MR. AUTIN: Realizing that, what efforts have you made? Have you been rebuffed in your efforts through the Agriculture Department to purchase this?

MR. SUMMERGILL: I personally have not; honestly I felt that it should have been the combined efforts of us. I have been talking to Mr. O'Neil I guess for about a month or six weeks. He



has made several trips into the Texas area. He has overcome one of the barriers, whereas these people were going on a hyrdo program, hydroponics, dry feed, and he has got them to admit that they will accept the nutria meat, provided that the program will be funded. Our problem is to establish good communication between us, our delegation, and see if we can get them either through directive, resolution or otherwise to fund the Mission program.

THE CHAIRMAN: Ted, why don't you see if you can help him out? That's what he is asking.

MR. O'NEIL: We'll do that, Jerry. We'll do everything in the world to try to get the program for one more year. Of course, you all can understand what it is. We are just asking for them to fund seven or eight million pounds at 25 percent higher than they can get, and the way things are done, I don't find that too bad to help us with our problem.

MR. SUMMERGILL: I would like to add one thing, Mr. Chairman. This 25 percent figure sounds like we are asking somebody to throw something in



our laps. When we got them switched from horsemeat to nutria meat, we saved them 50 percent of their total budget, so in reality we are not asking them for -- we are not trying to sell iceboxes to Eskimos. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Thank you, Ted. Harry.

MR. HARRY SCHAFER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, the Oyster Division has planted six areas with shell, two of them in '69, for hurricane feedback, for oyster cultch, and four of them in 1970. The two in '69, Three-Mile Pass and Black Bay, and '70 is at Petit Pass, Mink Island, Bay Crabbe and Pelican Island. This amounts to almost 3,000 acres of shell plants. They are on the east side of the river, this being Lake Borgne (indicating on map). There are three here and three up here. They are all on the east side of the river.

Our biologists have checked them. They have been out anywhere from 17 months to 23 months. There is a good population or there are good populations of seed oysters, and we would recommend



that the season be opened beginning September 1.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure? Do you want to open them?

MR. WRIGHT: Oh, I move so.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wright. Is there a second?

MR. KYLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Kyle.
Any objection? Any discussion?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

WHEREAS, in October of 1969,
clam shells for oyster cultch material
were planted in two locations on the
natural oyster seed grounds east of the
Mississippi River: one area in the
Three-Mile Pass-Bay Boudreaux area, St.
Bernard Parish, the other area in Black



Bay in Plaquemines Parish, and

WHEREAS, these plantings were to supplement natural cultch material and restore seed oysters that were destroyed as a result of Hurricane Camille, and

WHEREAS, four additional areas in the spring of 1970 were planted to provide cultch material to supplement and improve stock of seed oysters, and

WHEREAS, these locations were also in the natural oyster seed grounds east of the Mississippi River: two areas are located in St. Bernard Parish, one in the vicinity of Petit Pass in Lake Borgne and the other near Mink Island in Bay Boudreaux; the remaining two areas are located in Plaquemines Parish, one in Bay Crabbe and the other near the Pelican Island-Telegraph Point area, and



WHEREAS, recent field surveys of all these sites have indicated there are substantial amounts of seed oysters available in harvestable numbers,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, at its regular public meeting in New Orleans, on Tuesday, August 17, 1971, that these areas will be open to fishing seed oysters from September 1, 1971 through May 20, 1972 and in subsequent seasons or as may be established by Commission action.

MR. SCHAFER: We have two other reserves, Sister Lake and Bay Gardene. They were usually opened on alternate years but there was a plant in '70 at the Sister Lake reserve and this reserve should be opened, and we would like to recommend that both the Bay Gardene and Sister Lake be opened at the same time this year. Then if we find that we have to go back to alternate years, close one of them for a two-year period the



following year. I would recommend that they both be opened.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. KYLE: So move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Kyle. Is there a second?

MR. NORRIS: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Norris. Is there any discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

WHEREAS, the Sister Lake and Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Ground Reservations are on a rotating management plan whereby they open on alternate years for the taking of seed oysters, and

WHEREAS, this management plan provides that the Bay Gardene Reservation



be scheduled to open on September 1, 1971 and remain open throughout the regular season as established by law, and

WHEREAS, the Sister Lake reservation was closed for an additional year due to a clam shell planting operation in May of 1970 and is out of phase with established management plan, and

WHEREAS, recent sampling operations indicated that there are satisfactory seed stocks in both areas available which should be made available to the oyster fishermen,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, at its regular monthly public meeting, held in New Orleans, on Tuesday, August 17, 1971, does hereby announce the opening of the Sister Lake and the Bay Gardene



Oyster Seed Reservations beginning Wednesday, September 1, 1971. Said management plan shall remain in effect unless it is determined that the alternate year plan be re-established due to the absence of seed oysters with the Commission being empowered with the authority to establish seasons for these areas as it may deem biologically necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the aforementioned areas shall be open as prescribed by law.

MR. SCHAFER: Mr. Chairman, back in February, the Commission, at the request of the biologists to do a biological study in the Timbalier-Last Island area, passed a resolution to close this area for netting with trammel nets and seines. Since that time we have had numerous requests from sportsmen in Lafourche and Jefferson Parish to include in that same study the area in yellow (indicating on map). This is the area that was



closed in February and they want to include here this mainland here, all the way over to Four Bayou Pass and Grand Isle. Grand Isle is already closed, so it would just be this area in here, and that would include a half-mile offshore of all the islands and of this mainland. I would recommend that this be closed for a two-year biological study.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Harry, on the agenda it says "closed to commercial fishing." This is not closed to shrimping, would you like to say that?

MR. SCHAFER: No, this is just trammel net and seine.

THE CHAIRMAN: What is your pleasure?

MR. KYLE: So move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Kyle. Is there a second?

MR. WRIGHT: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Wright. Is there any discussion? Yes, sir.

FROM THE FLOOR: Mr. Chairman, you are going to have so many boats in that area, are you



going to call them seines?

THE CHAIRMAN: Harry.

MR. SCHAFER: This (indicating) would be closed, a half-mile from shore.

FROM THE FLOOR: All that would be closed?

MR. SCHAFER: Right.

FROM THE FLOOR: What about monofilament gill nets?

MR. HOFFPAUER: That's what we are talking about, specifically that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any further discussion? Is there any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana
Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does
hereby amend a portion of the resolution
of February 16, 1971, pertaining to the



two-year biological survey to be conducted in Terrebonne Parish, in order to change the description of the SALTWATER AREA to read as follows:

SALTWATER AREA: To include all islands and shorelines from Raccoon Point to Four Bayou Pass and one-half mile from the shores thereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other rules, regulations and descriptions shall remain as adopted in the resolution of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission on Tuesday, February 16, 1971.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Harry. Joe.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We have three items. Since Mr. O'Neil has set the outside trapping season, we would like to recommend to the Commission the trapping seasons on our wildlife management areas. We recommend that the season be December 11, 1971, through February 29,



1972, except on Alexander State Forest, Bohemia, Fort Polk, Peason Ridge and Zemurray, and no trapping will be on these areas at the request of the landowners.

Also, on Biloxi and Wisner, the trapping will be the same as the outside, as the trapping on these areas is done by the landowners.

Salvador, Point-a-la-Chein and Pass-a-Loutre and all other refuges under the Refuge Division, the season will be the same as the outside.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendations. What is your pleasure?

MR. KYLE: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Kyle. Is there a second?

MR. WALKER: I'll second it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Walker. Any discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: So ordered.

(Text of the resolution



is here made a part
of the record.)

WHEREAS the trapping season
dates have been set by the Fur Division
on a statewide basis and

WHEREAS the Fish and Game and
Refuge Divisions have wildlife manage-
ment areas and refuges suitable for
trapping and

WHEREAS the dates on the
wildlife management areas for trapping
will be December 11, 1971 through
February 29, 1972, except on Alexander
State Forest, Bohemia, Fort Polk, Peason
Ridge and Zemurray Wildlife Management
Areas. These areas will be closed by
landowner request, and

WHEREAS the Biloxi and Wisner
Wildlife Management Areas are owned by
individuals who have reserved the
trapping rights for these areas and
season will be the same as the outside



trapping season, December 1, 1971
through February 29, 1972, and

WHEREAS Salvador, Point a-la
Chien and all other refuges under the
supervision of the Refuge Division will
have a trapping season the same as the
outside which is December 1, 1971 through
February 29, 1972, and

WHEREAS permits for trapping on
these areas will be received from the
Refuge Division office in New Orleans
and trapping permits for the wildlife
management areas throughout the state
can be received from the district
offices, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that
the above mentioned areas and dates for
the setting of trapping seasons on wild-
life management and refuge areas be set.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, we have
received a request from the Richland Parish Police
Jury for a doe season in the southwest portion of



that parish. The area that they describe is an area bounded on the north by U. S. Highway 80 and on the east by State Highway 133, and on the south by the Rosco Road and on the west by Lafourche Canal. This resolution was passed by the Police Jury while this meeting was in session last month and so they were a little late in getting in their request, so I would like to recommend to the Commission now that we do permit a one-day any deer season, which will be November 20, 1971, in this described area.

MR. WRIGHT: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Wright.

MR. KYLE: I second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Kyle.

Is there any discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)



WHEREAS a resolution has been received from the Richland Parish Police Jury for a doe season, and

WHEREAS this area is described as an area bounded on the north by U. S. Highway 80, on the east by State Highway 133, on the south by the Bosco Road, and on the west by Lafourche Canal, now

THEREFORE be it resolved that an any sex deer season be held in this described portion of Richland Parish on November 20, 1971.

THE CHAIRMAN: No. 8.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item is the U. S. Forest Service Supervisor, Mr. B. F. Finison, has requested that we change the wording pertaining to camping regulations on wildlife management areas in the National Forest. A recent law passed, right now I think it is just temporarily, but the way that we word ours on wildlife management areas is in conflict to a national policy camping act on National Forest



land. We request that our people on wildlife management areas camp only in designated areas, and according to the new policy from the National Forest, people can camp on practically any area they want to. This will be something we will have to work out with the Forest Service in the very near future, though, but at this time I would like to recommend that the wording be, "Camping on wildlife management areas is allowed only in designated camping areas, except National Forest areas, and discharge of firearms in any camp within these areas is strictly prohibited."

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. What is your pleasure?

MR. KYLE: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Kyle. Is there a second?

MR. WRIGHT: I second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Wright. Is there any discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.



(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of
the record.)

WHEREAS the U. S. Forest
Service Supervisor, Mr. B. F. Finison,
has requested that we change the
wording pertaining to camping regula-
tions on wildlife management areas in
the National Forest, and

WHEREAS the present wording
prohibiting camping in other than
designated camping areas on wildlife
management areas is in conflict with
the national policy, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED
that the wording be: "Camping on
Wildlife Management Areas is allowed
only in designated camping areas,
except National Forest Areas, and
discharge of firearms in any camp
within these areas is strictly
prohibited."



THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Joe.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hoffpauer.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Gentlemen, we in the past few years have been noticing a tremendous sentiment towards anti-hunting rising all over the United States. We have groups now that particularly California founded that are against all types of hunting. Even some people are going against fishing, trout fishing and so forth. To ward off some of this sentiment, to actually show how hunters and fishermen feel towards great outdoor activities, Senator Thomas McIntyre and Representative Bob Sikes issued a concurrent resolution which would establish a national hunting and fishing day, and they would like a resolution from us going along with it.

What it would do is, the fourth Saturday of each September you would have a national hunting and fishing day, and I think it would be very well and appropriate that the Commission would go along commending this, with a resolution, and strengthening



their pull for this bill. You have such people as Mike Mansfield behind it, Senator James Eastland, that are trying to show that we have got every other kind of day in the world established here. We have National Meatpackers Day, we've got Pickle Days, we've got Syrup Days, and everything else, and it is time we get a National Hunting and Fishing Day, and I would just like to have a resolution from the Commission, commending this action and strengthening it.

THE CHAIRMAN: What is your pleasure?

MR. NORRIS: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Norris. Is there a second?

MR. KYLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Kyle. Is there any further discussion? Any objection?

(No response)

THE CHAIRMAN: Hearing none, so ordered.
Thank you.

(Text of the resolution
is here made a part of



the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission unanimously supports Senator Thomas J. McIntyre's Senate Joint Resolution 117 and Representative Bob Sikes' House Joint Resolution 798, both of which ask Congress to pass a resolution calling on President Richard Nixon to declare the fourth Saturday of each September National Hunting and Fishing Day in recognition of the many contributions of America's 50 million hunters and fishermen to conservation and outdoor recreation, and now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does hereby go on record as requesting Congress to pass a resolution for a National Hunting and Fishing Day "to provide that deserved national recognition, to recognize the esthetic,



health, and recreational virtues of hunting and fishing, to dramatize the continued need for gun and boat safety, and to rededicate ourselves to the conservation and respectful use of our wildlife and natural resources."*

*(Note: Quote is from Senator McIntyre's and Representative Sikes' resolutions.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Is there any other business to come before the Commission? Yes, sir.

MR. HARDING COVINGTON: Harding Covington, president of the Bennett Fishermen's Co-op.

Gentlemen, we have been having a problem with the crab trappers and these trappers have cost not only fishing boats many thousands of dollars but also other commercial and pleasure boats by catching these traps in the wheels, and it has caused a lot of damage to our boats, like I say, because these traps are put in channels, in open water. In fact, one string of traps in our area has stopped a double-rigger from fishing in the



deep water Fort Bayou area, so we would recommend, our co-op recommends, that the Commission study this problem and see if some solution can come and some kind of controls put on these people and make them liable for any damage that they cause.

That's all gentlemen.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Aren't they marked by floats?

MR. COVINGTON: They are marked by floats but these floats are only temporary. They used jugs which break.

THE CHAIRMAN: The traps wear out also and they just take the cork off and throw them overboard.

MR. COVINGTON: Right, and at the end of the season these people abandon the traps and leave them there for the trawl boats to catch, and to get a rotten trap out of a net is really something. You cut your hands up and many of the fellows have to go to the hospital.

THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. St. Amant.

DR. ST. AMANT: This is a problem. I am open to any suggestions. I don't know just how



you are going to do it, unless you do mark these traps, sell them some kind of license or tag like we put on the hook nets, and then they could be held liable for any problem they create. Perhaps some ruling should be made setting them. They could set long lines of them over large water areas and it can hamper trawling and other types of boat activity.

MR. KYLE: Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kyle.

MR. KYLE: I would like to suggest that Dr. St. Amant try to come up with some partial recommendation, at least, next Commission meeting.

MR. HOFFPAUER: Lyle, that's the only commercial fishing gear not licensed and tagged, right?

DR. ST. AMANT: That's right. This was introduced into the state several years ago. Before that, most of this crabbing was done with set lines and bait, and this trap was brought in from the Chesapeake Bay area. It has actually helped the crab industry. Before that we didn't produce anything like the crabs we are producing



now. There are some conflicts here that should be resolved.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do we license the crab fishermen as such, where we can identify the people that are engaging in that activity?

DR. ST. AMANT: They buy their licenses like --

MR. HOFFPAUER: Commercial fishermen.

THE CHAIRMAN: We couldn't identify them?

MR. COVINGTON: What do the other states do? How do they handle the situation?

DR. ST. AMANT: Well, they don't have as much trawling as we have, so they don't have the problem. Our problem here is that we have very shallow waters and we have a great many of these crab traps and a great many trawl boats. It is not as easy to keep them separated.

THE CHAIRMAN: We are aware of the problem, and we are going to see if we can do something about it.

Is there any bother business to come before the Commission? If not, do I hear a motion



that we adjourn?

MR. WRIGHT: I will make the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: The meeting is adjourned.

. . . Thereupon, at 11:45
o'clock a.m., Tuesday,
August 17, 1971, the meeting
was adjourned. . . .

